

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 06479 210332Z

60

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /116 W  
----- 002867

R 201017Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 462

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 6479

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (PHOUMA, SOUVANNA)

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO FRANCE

ALTHOUGH WE EXPECT A SPECIAL AIRCRAFT OF THE FRENCH AIR FORCE TO ARRIVE IN VIENTIANE ON AUGUST 22 WHICH WILL FLY PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA TO PARIS ON AUGUST 25, THERE APPEARS TO BE INCREASING PRESSURE WITHIN VARIOUS LAO CIRCLES AGAINST HIS CONVALESCING IN EUROPE. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY SEVERAL SOURCES THAT THE KING IS OPPOSED TO SOUVANNA'S DEPARTURE AS HE FEARS THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE DURING HIS ABSENCE. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THE PATHET LAO ARE VERY RELUCTANT TO HAVE THE PRIME MINISTER BE IN FRANCE FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD. FINALLY, WE ARE INFORMED BY FORMER AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, PHENG NORINDR, THAT THE LAO ASTROLOGER IN WHOM THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS THE GREATEST CONFIDENCE STRONGLY URGED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER NOT LEAVE. THIS RECOMMENDATION IS KNOWN TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S SON AND NIECE WHO ARE CONCEALING THIS INFORMATION FROM HIM. GIVEN THE ROLE OF SUPERSTITIONS OF THIS KIND IN LAO SOCIETY, WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THERE IS A HANGUP OF SOME KIND IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TRIP.

WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEALTH, MINISTERIAL VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974VIENTI06479  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740230-0110  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740832/aaaabawm.tel  
**Line Count:** 52  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO FRANCE ALTHOUGH WE EXPECT A SPECIAL AIRCRAFT OF THE FRENCH AIR FORCE TO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, LA, (PHOUMA, SOUVANNA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005